

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204063

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU

SUBJECT: HANDLING OF CYPRUS PROBLEM IN THE UNITED NATIONS

1. IN THE ABSENCE FROM WASHINGTON OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST, CYPRUS AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BARBOUR TO DISCUSS CYPRUS ISSUE AT - FORTHCOMING UNGA . ESSENTIALLY REPEATING PRESENTATION OF FON MIN CHRISTOPHIDES TO AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD (NICOSIA 2228) DIMITRIOU ASKED THAT US SUPPORT PROCEDURES IN EFFECT IN PREVIOUS YEARS FOR HANDLING CYPRUS DEBATE.

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2. BARBOUR TOOK NOTE OF CYPRIOT POSITION, WHICH US WOULD CONSIDER CAREFULLY BEFORE REACHING DECISION. (FYI AMBASSADOR SHOULD KNOW THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES SAID LAST MONTH IN NICOSIA ONLY THAT THE US WOULD CONTINUE TO OPPOSE ALLOWING A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY ADDRESS THE UNGA PLENARY. SEE PARA 6 NICOSIA 1934. END FYI)

3. DISCUSSION THEN SHIFTED TO ISSUE OF CYPRIOT DECISION TO TAKE VAROSHA QUESTION TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL. CYPRUS AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU SAID HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT SAID CONTINUING TURKISH VIOLATIONS OF UN RESOLUTIONS, AND PERSISTANT MOVES TO COLONIZE VAROSHA HAD LEFT CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO TURN TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

4. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS SPEAKING PERSONNALLY SAID THAT THEY DID NOT BELIEVE DECISION TO TAKE MATTER TO UNSC WOULD LEAD TO ANY POSITIVE RESULT. PUTTING THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE TURKS IN NEW YORK COULD WELL FORCE ANKARA TO SUPPORT DENKTASH, SOMETHING IT MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE WISH TO DO. US RECOGNIZED SERIOUSNESS OF VAROSHA ISSUE BUT QUIET DIPLOMACY SEEMED BEST WAY OF GETTING TURKS TO RESTRAIN TURKISH-CYPRIOTS.

5. DIMITRIOU SAID HE APPRECIATED US APPREHENSIONS BUT THAT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR NICOSIA TO REMAIN SILENT IN THE FACE OF THE PERSISTENT THREATS AND TAUNTS FROM DENKTASH, AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE PLANS FOR VAROSHA WHICH THE TURKS HAD DRAWN UP AND WHICH WERE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT.

6. COMMENT. FROM DIMITRIOU'S REMARKS, IT DOES NOT SEEM LIKELY THAT ANYTHING CAN BE DONE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO  
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PERSUADE THE GREEK CYPRIOTS TO WITHDRAW THEIR REQUEST FOR A SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION. NONTHELESS, GIVEN THE NEGATIVE EFFECT SUCH A SESSION WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE ON PROSPECTS FOR MEANINGFUL CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS ANYTIME SOON, SOME EFFORT ON OUR PART CLEARLY IS IN ORDER. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY ANKARA SHOULD DISCUSS VAROSHA ISSUE ON URGENT BASIS WITH TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY AT AS HIGH A LEVEL AS IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE TO SEEK CONFIDENTIAL ASSURANCE THAT NEITHER TURKISH-CYPRIOTS NOR TURKS INTEND TO EXPAND BEYOND CONSTANTIA HOTEL TO COLONIZE VAROSHA. IF SUCH ASSURANCE CAN BE OBTAINED, WE WOULD INTEND TO CONVEY IT PRIVATELY TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AND ASK THAT THEY NOT PRESSTHEIR REQUEST TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR A IMMEDIATE SESSION ON THE VAROSHA ISSUE. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE BRITISH AND OTHER EC9 MEMBERS CONTEMPLATE APPROACHING TURKS IN ANKARA ON VAROSHA. DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO DISCUSS VAROSHA ISSUE WITH TURKISH CHARGE  
AUG 26. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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